

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A bone implant comprising:

- (a) a core having a first end wall, a second end wall and defining a centerline centreline extending centrally of and between said end walls, and a circumferential side wall portion parallel and extending between said end walls;
- (b) at least two axially elongated projections,
 - (i) extending from and along said core,
 - (ii) being disposed at a uniform circumferential spacing from each other about the centerline centreline,
 - (iii) having a rounded contour when viewed in axial direction of the core;
- (c) said core and said projections being dimensioned to contact inner wall sections of a socket formed in a bone and having a predetermined size and configuration compatible with that of the implant, when the implant has been tapped into the socket.

2. (Currently Amended) The bone implant of claim 1, comprising four axially elongated projections, said projections

- (i) all extending from said circumferential side wall and along said core, and
- (ii) being disposed at a generally 90° circumferential spacing from each other about said centerline centreline.

3. (Original) The bone implant of claim 1, further comprising at least two elongated stems extending from a location at the second end wall of said core and having a free end disposed beyond said second end wall, each stem defining a stem axis.

4. (Original) The bone implant of claim 3, wherein a part of each elongated stem has a radially outer portion which forms an extension of one of said projections.

5. (Currently Amended) The bone implant of claim 1, wherein each projection is formed by a plurality of fins disposed in row parallel with said centerline centreline, the fins being inclined in a direction toward the centerline centreline and the second end wall, whereby the tapping of the implant into an associated socket is facilitated and the withdrawal thereof from the socket is impeded by back biting orientation of the fins.

6. (Original) The bone implant of claim 3, wherein at least a part of at least one of the elongated stems includes a plurality of fins inclined in a direction toward the axis and the free end of the respective stem whereby the tapping of the implant into the socket is facilitated and the withdrawal thereof from the socket is impeded by back biting orientation of the fins.

7. (Currently Amended) The bone implant of claim 1, wherein said circumferential side wall is generally circular in a cross section perpendicular to said centerline centreline.

8. (Currently Amended) The bone implant of claim 1, wherein said second end wall of the core has the shape of a cavity symmetrical according to said centerline centreline.

9. (Original) The bone implant of claim 8, wherein the shape of the cavity is concave.

Claims 10. to 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) Template means for forming an implant receiving socket from a bore pre formed in a bone, said template means comprising:

(a) a sleeve having an axis, a first end, a second end, an inner wall and an outer wall, an outer circumference of the sleeve corresponding in shape and in size to the circumference of an associated bore pre formed in the bone;

(b) an axially elongated first channel and an axially elongated second channel, each formed in the outer wall of the sleeve, having a concavely

rounded cross section and being disposed at a generally uniform spacing from each other about said axis.

20. (Original) The template means of claim 19, further comprising a generally cylindric locking pin discrete from the sleeve and compatible with the radius of one of said grooves.

21. (Original) The template means of claim 19, further comprising a third channel and a fourth channel, all said channels being formed in the outer wall of the sleeve at a spacing from one another of about 90° about said axis, each channel having a generally semi circular cross section.

22. (Original) The template means of claim 19, further comprising a handle disposed at said first end of the sleeve between two adjacent channels and projecting radially away from the sleeve to facilitate manipulation of the sleeve.

23. (Original) The template means of claim 19, wherein the channels extend full length of the sleeve, from said first end to said second end thereof.

24. (Original) The template means of claim 20, wherein the locking pin is a tubular sleeve.

25. (Original) The template means of claim 19, wherein the second end of the sleeve is concavely rounded.